

CLAIMS

I claim:

1. A suspension assembly mounted to a vehicle having a leaf spring suspension system including a wheel journalled to an axle, a leaf spring having opposite ends secured to said axle, said leaf spring secured at one of said ends to the undercarriage of said vehicle, said suspension assembly comprising a resilient bolster spring having opposite ends interposed between said leaf spring and said undercarriage, one of said ends of said bolster spring secured to said leaf spring over said axle, the other of said ends of said bolster spring extending over and along said leaf spring and being secured to said undercarriage.
2. The suspension assembly of claim 1 and further comprising a first bracket on said one end of said bolster spring secured to said leaf spring, and a second bracket on said other end of said bolster spring secured to said undercarriage.
3. The suspension assembly of claim 2 wherein said second bracket is offset vertically and laterally from said first bracket.
4. The suspension assembly of claim 1 wherein said other end of said bolster spring is spaced higher than said one end of said bolster spring and extends toward said one end of said leaf spring.
5. The suspension assembly of claim 1 wherein said bolster spring further comprises a plurality of stacked resilient cores, each core laterally offset from its adjacent core, a rigid separator plate between each said core, said cores and separator plates maintained between a first endplate forming said one end of said bolster spring and a second endplate forming said other end of said bolster spring.

6. The suspension assembly of claim 5 wherein said cores and separator plates are generally vertically disposed, said other end of said bolster spring spaced forwardly and upwardly apart from said one end of the bolster spring.
7. The suspension system of claim 5 wherein said cores and separator plates are angularly offset from a vertical orientation between about five degrees and twenty five degrees.
8. A bolster spring assembly for mounting to a vehicle having a suspension system including a wheel journalled to an axle, said axle secured to the undercarriage of said vehicle with a resilient suspension means including a leaf spring, said bolster spring assembly comprising a plurality of stacked generally planar resilient cores, each core laterally offset a regular distance from its adjacent core; a rigid separator plate between each adjacent pair of said cores; each said separator plate having an indented portion; said cores and separators maintained between a first endplate and a second endplate; a bracket carried by said first endplate adapted for connection to said leaf spring over said axle, a second bracket carried by said second endplate adapted for connection to said undercarriage.
9. A method of securing a bolster spring assembly to the suspension system of a vehicle, said suspension system including a wheel journalled to an axle, said axle secured to the undercarriage of said vehicle with a resilient suspension means including a leaf spring, said bolster spring including a plurality of stacked planar resilient cores, each core laterally offset from its adjacent core; a rigid planar separator between each adjacent pair of said cores; said cores and separators maintained between a first endplate and a second endplate; a bracket carried by said first endplate adapted for connection to said leaf spring over said axle, a second bracket carried by said second endplate adapted for connection to

said undercarriage, said method comprising the steps:

- a. securing said second bracket to said undercarriage such that said bolster spring assembly is angularly positioned between said axle and said undercarriage; and
- b. securing said first bracket to said leaf spring over said axle.